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ORDINANCE NO.

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO ACADIAN AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC.,
A RENEWAL OF A FRANCHISE TO OPERATE A MEDICAL TRANSFER
SERVICE.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. FINDINGS.

(A) The City Council finds the following:

- (1) Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. ("Acadian") has filed an application under Section 10-2-61 of the City Code to renew its Franchise to operate and maintain a medical transfer service within the city limits of the City of Austin. Acadian's current medical transfer Franchise term will expire on October 31, 2017. In accordance with Sections 10-2-62(A) of the City Code, the Austin/Travis County EMS Advisory Board has reviewed the application and recommended its approval.
- (2) Acadian seeks approval of a Franchise to operate a medical transfer service under the City Charter and Chapter 10-2 of the City Code.
- (3) Acadian has met the requirements of Chapter 10-2 of the City Code.
- (4) Public convenience will be served by granting the renewal of the Franchise to Acadian.
- (5) The proposed operation of the transfer service will be in compliance with all provisions of the City Code and all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations.

(B) The City Council approves the renewal of a medical transfer services Franchise to Acadian subject to the conditions in this ordinance.

PART 2. DEFINITIONS.

DIRECTOR means the Director of the City of Austin Emergency Medical Services Department.

GRANTEE means Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc., a Louisiana corporation authorized to do business in Texas.

43
44 MEDICAL TRANSFER SERVICE has the meaning prescribed in Chapter 10-2 of the
45 City Code.

46
47 PUBLIC RIGHT- OF- WAY means the surface of a public street, highway, lane, path,
48 alley, sidewalk, boulevard, drive, bridge, tunnel, easement or similar property in which
49 the City holds a property interest or exercises rights of management or control and which,
50 consistent with the purposes for which it was acquired or dedicated, may be used for the
51 operation of a medical transfer service.

52
53 **PART 3. GRANT OF A FRANCHISE.**

54
55 The Council grants to Acadian ("Grantee") the nonexclusive right and privilege to
56 operate a medical transfer service on the public right of way of the City subject to this
57 Part:

- 58
59 (A) If Grantee accepts this Franchise, it shall, not later than 20 days after the
60 adoption of this ordinance, file with the City Clerk a letter acknowledging
61 and accepting the provisions of this Franchise, and agreeing to be bound by
62 the terms of this Franchise.
- 63
64 (B) The Grantee shall execute or cause to be executed all legal documents,
65 insurance certificates, and performance bonds required by the City. The
66 documents are subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.
- 67
68 (C) The term of this Franchise begins on February 6, 2018, and expires on the
69 fifth anniversary of that date unless terminated in accordance with this
70 Franchise.
- 71
72 (D) A reference in this Franchise to a Public Right -of -Way is not a
73 representation or guarantee by the City that its interests or other rights in
74 property are sufficient to permit its use for the operation of a medical
75 transfer service and the Grantee will gain only those rights which the City
76 has the right and power to give.

77
78 **PART 4. EXTENSION OF FRANCHISE.**

79
80 The Grantee may request an extension of the term of this Franchise as provided by the
81 Charter. The request for the extension shall be filed no later than eight months prior to the
82 expiration of the Franchise.

85 **PART 5. TRAINING.**

86
87 The Grantee's employees may attend City in-service training provided to EMS employees
88 at no cost to the Grantee on a space-available basis. The Director may make additional
89 training available to the Grantee's employees on a fee basis.

90
91 **PART 6. EMPLOYEES.**

92
93 The employees and agents of the Grantee may not be the employees, agents, or
94 representatives of the City.

95
96 The City may not direct or control the Grantee's employees and agents in the
97 performance of their duties under this Franchise. The City is not liable for the acts or
98 omissions of the Grantee's employees and agents.

99
100 **PART 7. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW.**

101
102 The Grantee, its employees, and agents shall comply with applicable federal, state and
103 City laws, rules, regulations, codes, and other requirements in connection with the
104 operation of the medical transfer service and the confidentiality of patient information.

105
106 **PART 8. RATES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICE**

107
108 The City Council may, after notice and hearing, regulate by ordinance the rates, charges,
109 and fares the Grantee charges for services provided under this Franchise.

110
111 **PART 9. COMPENSATION TO THE CITY.**

112
113 The Grantee shall pay to the City as compensation during each year of this Franchise, a
114 Franchise fee as provided by Chapter 10-2 of the City Code, as amended from time to
115 time. The compensation is in addition to all special assessments and ad valorem taxes.

116
117 **PART 10. CITY'S RIGHT TO PURCHASE.**

- 118
119 (A) The City may purchase the Grantee's medical transfer service at any time
120 within five years before the expiration of this Franchise.
121
122 (B) If the City elects to exercise its right to purchase the Grantee's medical
123 transfer service, the City shall notify the Grantee in writing at least 90 days
124 before the effective date of the purchase.
125

126 (C) The City and Grantee shall have 30 days following the date of the City's
127 notice to negotiate and agree upon a purchase price. If they fail to reach
128 agreement within such 30 day period each party shall, within 60 days
129 following the date of the City's notice of intent to purchase, designate an
130 appraiser experienced and knowledgeable in the valuation of similar
131 services.

- 132
- 133 (1) Each appraiser shall conduct an independent appraisal of the fair
134 market value of the Grantee's medical transfer service as a going
135 concern as of the effective date of the purchase by the City.
 - 136
 - 137 (2) Each party shall be responsible for the appraisal fees of its own
138 appraisers.
 - 139
 - 140 (3) In conducting the appraisals, the appraisers shall consider, among
141 other factors, the book value of the assets constituting the Grantee's
142 medical transfer service, the age, condition, and remaining useful life
143 of the Grantee's property utilized in performing services under this
144 Franchise, and the discounted future revenue stream considering the
145 Grantee's actual customer base at the time the notice of purchase is
146 given by the City, for the remaining useful life of the assets.
 - 147
 - 148 (4) If the two independent appraisals result in purchase prices that are
149 within 20 percent of each other, the purchase price to be paid by the
150 City will be the average of the two appraisals. If the two independent
151 appraisals are not within 20 percent of each other, then the two
152 appraisers shall discuss their appraisals and attempt to arrive at a joint
153 determination concerning the purchase price. If the two appraisers are
154 not able to arrive at a joint determination of fair market value within
155 120 days after the City's notice of its intent to purchase, then the City
156 and Grantee shall jointly select a third independent appraiser. The
157 third appraiser shall submit a determination of the purchase price
158 within 30 days of being selected, and the purchase price shall be the
159 average of the three appraisals. The City and the Grantee shall each
160 pay 50% of the costs of the third independent appraiser.

161

162 (D) The purchase price shall be payable in cash unless the parties mutually agree
163 otherwise. If the City exercises the purchase option, pays the purchase price,
164 and serves notice of the action on the Grantee, the Grantee shall immediately
165 transfer to the City title to the Grantee's medical transfer service and all
166 property, real and personal, of the Grantee's medical transfer system.

167

- 168 (E) The Grantee shall transfer the property free from liens and encumbrances
169 unless the City agrees to assume the encumbrances in lieu of some portion of
170 the purchase price.
171
172 (F) The Grantee shall execute and deliver warranty deeds, bills of sale, or other
173 instruments of conveyance to the City to complete the transfer.
174

175 **PART 11. ACCOUNTS, RECORDS, REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.**
176

177 Not later than 10 days after receipt of a request for information from the Director, the
178 Grantee shall provide the City information affecting the maintenance, operation and
179 repair of the Grantee's medical transfer service in the public rights of way.
180

- 181 (A) The Grantee shall keep complete and accurate books of accounts and records
182 of its business and operations under this Franchise. The account shall be
183 maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
184
185 (B) The Director may require the Grantee to keep additional records to identify,
186 account for, and report revenue and uncollectible accounts.
187
188 (C) The Director may require the Grantee to provide other information relating
189 to this Franchise in the form and manner prescribed by the Director.
190
191 (D) The Director may audit the Grantee.
192

193 **PART 12. ANNUAL AUDIT.**
194

195 The Grantee shall furnish to the Director an annual financial review audit performed by a
196 Certified Public Accountant. The audit shall describe the Grantee's financial status and
197 shall be performed at the Grantee's expense.
198

199 **PART 13. QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW.**
200

201 The Director may conduct periodic reviews, including actual on-site surveys of the
202 Grantee's physical plant and operation. The Director may, at any time, make inquiries
203 pertaining to the Grantee's performance of the terms and conditions of this Franchise. The
204 Grantee shall respond to an inquiry not later than three days after an inquiry by the
205 Director.
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207 **PART 14. INSURANCE.**
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- 209 (A) The Grantee shall provide and maintain the following insurance:

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- (1) Workers' Compensation insurance in accordance with the limits of coverage established by Tex. Labor Code Chapter 401.001 et seq.
 - (2) General liability insurance with a minimum bodily injury limit of \$1,000,000 for each occurrence and a property damage limit of \$500,000 for each occurrence to include premises/operations, broad form property damages, personal liability, and contractual liability coverage.
 - (3) Automobile liability insurance for all vehicles used in performing services under this Franchise with minimum limits for bodily injury of \$500,000 for each person and \$1,000,000 for each occurrence; and property damage limit of \$100,000 for each occurrence. The insurance must not contain a passenger liability exclusion.
- (B) The required insurance must be written by a solvent company licensed to do business in the State of Texas.
- (1) Grantee shall furnish the City with a certificate of coverage issued by the insurer.
 - (2) The City shall be named as an additional insured.
 - (3) The Certification of insurance shall contain transcripts from the office of the insurer, evidencing those insured, the extent of the insurance, the location and the operations to which the insurance applies, the expiration date, and a notice of cancellation clause.
- (C) The Grantee may not cause any insurance to be canceled, nor permit any insurance to lapse. Insurance certifications shall include a clause that the policy may not be canceled or altered in any way until 10 days after the Director has received written notice as evidenced by return receipt of a registered or certified letter.
- (D) The City may review the insurance requirements of this section during the effective period of this Franchise and adjust insurance coverage and limits if the City's Risk Manager determines an increase is required based on changes in statutory law, court decisions, or the claims history of the industry as well as of the Grantee. The City agrees to review the coverage if the required insurance coverage increases.

253 **PART 15. PERFORMANCE BOND.**

- 254
- 255 (A) The Grantee shall file with the Director a surety bond in a form approved by
- 256 the City Attorney to secure performance of the Grantee's obligations under
- 257 the Franchise. The bond must be written by an insurance company licensed
- 258 to do business in the state and with an agent or attorney in the city for
- 259 service of process.
- 260
- 261 (B) Instead of the surety bond described in this section, the Grantee may file
- 262 with the Director a certificate of deposit or irrevocable letter of credit in
- 263 favor of the City. The certificate of deposit or letter of credit is subject to the
- 264 conditions for a surety bond stated in this section.
- 265
- 266 (C) A surety bond under this chapter must include the following terms:
- 267
- 268 (1) The Grantee shall pay to the City all amounts due under the terms of
- 269 this chapter.
- 270
- 271 (2) The Grantee shall pay fines, assessments, and judgments levied
- 272 against the Grantee by a court, by the City, and by other officials that
- 273 may levy fines, taxes, charges, assessments, or judgments.
- 274
- 275 (3) The Grantee shall perform every obligation under the Grantee's
- 276 Franchise and this chapter.
- 277
- 278 (4) Each surety bond must contain an endorsement that no cancellation or
- 279 restriction of the bond is effective until the 30th day after the day the
- 280 City receives notice, by certified mail return receipt requested, of the
- 281 cancellation or restriction.
- 282
- 283 (5) The bond amount must be \$10,000.
- 284

285 **PART 16. INDEMNITY.**

286

287 The Grantee is an independent contractor in the performance of this Franchise, and shall

288 indemnify and hold harmless the City, its officers, agents and employees from any and all

289 claims or losses which may result from any negligent or intentional act or omission of the

290 Grantee, its agents, employees or representatives under this Franchise. The Grantee shall

291 defend, indemnify and hold the City harmless against damages, costs, loss or expense for

292 the repair, replacement, or restoration of City's property, equipment, materials, structures

293 and facilities which are damaged, destroyed or found to be defective as a result of an act

294 or omission of Grantee, its agents, employees or representatives under this Franchise.

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- (A) The Grantee, for itself and its agents, employees, subcontractors, and the agents and employees of subcontractors, shall defend, indemnify, and hold the City, its successors, assigns, officers, employees and elected officials harmless against claims, demands, suits, causes of action, and judgments for:
- (1) damage to or loss of the property of a person including, but not limited to the Grantee, its agents, officers, employees and subcontractors, City's agents, officers and employees, and third parties arising out of, incident to, concerning or resulting from a negligent or intentional act or omission of the Grantee, its agents, employees, or subcontractors, in the performance of all activities and services under this Franchise, no matter how, or to whom, the loss may occur; and
- (2) death, bodily injury, illness, disease, worker's compensation, loss of services, or loss of income or wages to a person including but not limited to the agents, officers and employees of the Grantee, the Grantee's subcontractors and the City, and third parties, arising out of, incident to, concerning or resulting from a negligent or intentional act or omission of the Grantee, its agents, employees, or subcontractors, in their performance of all activities and services under this Franchise, no matter how, or to whom, the loss may occur.
- (B) If damage, claim or loss is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be caused by the concurrent fault of both the Grantee and the City, then the Grantee shall indemnify the City to the full proportionate extent that the Grantee is determined to be at fault. It is the intention of the parties, and the Grantee expressly agrees, that the provisions of this section shall not exclude claims, damages, and losses caused in part, but not wholly, by the negligence of the City, even if the City is more negligent than the Grantee.

326 The City shall give the Grantee prompt written notice of claims made or suits filed
327 against the City that relate to the Grantee's Franchise activity, and shall cooperate with
328 the Grantee in the defense thereof. The Grantee shall have the right to investigate, defend,
329 and compromise a claim or suit to the extent of its own interests, including but not
330 limited to the extent to which Grantee may be liable for indemnification of City.
331

332 **PART 17. NOTICES.**
333

- 334 (A) The Grantee shall direct all notices from the Grantee to the City under this
335 Franchise to the City Attorney and the Director of EMS, individually, at

336 P.O. Box 1088, Austin, Texas 78767, or to the officer designated by the City
337 Council.

- 338
- 339 (B) All notices to the Grantee under this Franchise shall be to the local corporate
340 officer within the Austin city limits designated by the Grantee in writing.
- 341
- 342 (C) The Grantee shall maintain within the Austin city limits throughout the term
343 of this Franchise an address for service of notices by mail.
- 344
- 345 (D) The Grantee shall also maintain within the Austin city limits a local
346 telephone number operational during normal business hours for the conduct
347 of matters related to this Franchise. The Grantee shall furnish a change in
348 address or telephone number to the City at least 10 days before the change.
349

350 **PART 18. FRANCHISE CERTIFICATION.**

351

352 The Grantee certifies that it complies with the Discrimination in Employment by City
353 Contractors requirements of Chapter 5-4 of the Austin City Code.

354

355 **PART 19. GRATUITIES.**

356

357 The City may cancel this Franchise if it is found that gratuities in the form of
358 entertainment, gifts, or otherwise were offered or given by the Grantee or any agent or
359 representative to any City official or employee with a view toward securing favorable
360 treatment with respect to the awarding, amending or making of any determinations with
361 respect to the performing of the Franchise. In the event this Franchise is canceled by the
362 City under this provision, the City shall be entitled, in addition to any other rights and
363 remedies, to recover from the Grantee a sum equal in amount to the cost incurred by the
364 Grantee in providing the gratuities.
365

366 **PART 20. ASSIGNMENT.**

367

368 This Franchise is not transferable, delegable, or assignable without the approval of the
369 Austin City Council as provided in Article XI, Section Four of the Charter and in Chapter
370 10-2 of the City Code.

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372 **PART 21. JURISDICTION AND VENUE.**

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374 Jurisdiction and venue for litigation arising from this Franchise lies in Austin, Travis
375 County, Texas.
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